

CONCORDIA COUNCIL ON STUDENT LIFE

Minutes of a meeting held in H-769, SGW Campus at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, 14 February, 1992.

PRESENT: Donald L. Boisvert, Chair, Janet Mrenica, Nick Kaminaris, Marlis Hubbard, Nancy Torbit, Brian Counihan, Ann Kerby, Hernani Farias, Charlene Nero, Lana Grimes, Bob Philip, Peter Côté, Mohammed Ahsan, Connie Morales, Bluma Litner, Roger Côté, Aparna Kurupati, Kathy Mc Donald, Secretary.

ABSENT: Brahm Rosensweig, SupMei Graub

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Added to the agenda under New Business: Issue regarding the enforcement of the No-Smoking policy

The agenda was unanimously adopted as proposed.

2. **Remarks from the Vice-Rector, Services**

Dr. Boisvert informed the council that the Vice-Rector, Services was unable to be in attendance and is expected to be available for the next meeting in March.

3. **Remarks from the Chair**

Dr. Boisvert took this opportunity to remark on a letter printed in the Thursday Report regarding a rather negative opinion attributed to Hernani Farias and Eleanor Brown about support by the Board of Governors for the wishes of the CCSL. Mr. Farias circulated documentation that helped to clarify his true opinion on the issue.

Charlene Nero apologized for the comments as they were overzealous and exaggerated. The intent was to reinforce the sentiment that since there is a CCSL then it would seem worthwhile for the Board of Governors to value its input. Nick Kaminaris asked if the proposed 1992-93 budget would be tabled at the March or April meeting. Dr. Boisvert responded that the exact date is uncertain at this time.

4. **Adoption of the Minutes**

On a motion by Hernani Farias, seconded by Lana Grimes, the minutes of the 17 January 1992 meeting were unanimously adopted.

5. **Business Arising from the Minutes**

a) Appointments to Employment Services Advisory Committee

Dr. Boisvert requested the names for the committee as it is important to move on strategies in replacement of the current structure. Committee members were identified as: Janet Mrenica, Charlene Nero, SupMei Graub. At this point, there is no graduate student who has been named. It is expected that a meeting of the committee will be held soon.

b) Letter from GSA re: International Student Fees

Ann Kerby provided documentation that detailed follow-up action on the previously introduced issue on International Student fees. (see attached letter; GSA Request to CCSL).

Discussion regarding input to the Task Force on Graduate Life followed. It was determined that the role of CUSA was unclear and that graduate student feedback should be obtained through the representative on the Task Force. It was indicated that support should be demonstrated by the presentation of a brief by the International Student Advisor, Claudette Fortier, to the Task Force.

6. Report from the Planning and Resources Committee

a) Elaboration of Principles F & G of Space Planning Report

Bob Philip, the co-chair of the committee provided a report on the meetings held since the last CCSL meeting. He focused on the identified issues and outlined the approach agreed on by the committee to address these concerns. The issues currently under consideration other than that regarding the Principles F & G of the Space Planning Report include a) Composition of Employment Services Advisory Committee and c) Motion on Student Input re:Space Planning. Other issues are to be dealt with at subsequent meetings. The concern regarding the athletic facilities were considered as part of a proposal for the Capital Campaign.

Dr. Boisvert made reference to the 'vagueness' of the principles as outlined in previous committee meetings and asked for clarification.

Mr. Philip commented that Principle F focuses primarily on student needs rather than on financial considerations. Principle G pays particular attention to the physical environment as well as the 'emotional' and the 'psychological' environment.

b) Motion on Student Input re: Space Planning

Hernani Farias and Nick Kaminaris commented that it would be useful if Dr.

Boisvert could represent the concerns of students regarding space planning to the Vice-Rector, Services, in particular concerns about inclusion in the decision making process. Dr. Boisvert will comply as requested.

Mr. Farias presented four (4) motions from the Planning and Resources committee.

Dr. Boisvert read the motions and called for discussion.

Motion #1: Moved by Hernani Farias and seconded by Nick Kaminaris.
Be it resolved that CCSL consider the actual schedule and location of changes proposed by Dr. Bertrand and that opportunities be provided for students to give input.

Following extensive discussion, Council unanimously accepted Motion #1.

Roger Côté pointed out that there was an error in the memo circulated by the Vice-Rector concerning Space Planning. The Financial Aid office will be moving in 1992 and not 1993.

Motion #2: Moved by Nick Kaminaris and seconded by Janet Mrenica.
Be it resolved that CCSL request that the Vice-Rector, Services consider CCSL and Student Services to be an integral part of any present and future changes to planning space allocation.

Following discussion, Council unanimously accepted motion #2.

Motion #3: Moved by Nick Kaminaris and seconded by Lana Grimes.
Be it resolved that the Chair's reports on Council activities to Dr. Bertrand be made available to the Board of Governors.

Following limited discussion, a motion to table was presented by Nancy Torbit and seconded by Hernani Farias. Council unanimously accepted the motion to table and it was requested that motion #3 be brought forward at the next meeting.

Motion #4: Moved by Hernani Farias and seconded by Janet Mrenica.
Be it resolved that the Chair of CCSL be made an ex-officio member of the Board of Governors.

After extensive discussion regarding the concern over communications between Council and the Board of Governors, it was decided that the motion should be withdrawn and that the Chair of CCSL, Dr. Boisvert, follow-up on concerns and report back to Council.

c) Common List of Issues for Discussion

Dr. Boisvert asked when and how the list of identified issues will be addressed.

Bob Philip responded that the Committee decided that the issue of athletic facilities should be dealt with as part of the proposal for the next Capital Campaign.

On a motion by Bob Philip, seconded by Hernani Farias, it was resolved that the CCSL ask the Planning and Resources Committee to develop recreational facilities proposal for the Capital Campaign and that the sub-committee should see it through to its final conclusion. Mr. Philip went on to explain that if this is acceptable to council then the Planning and resources committee confirm representation on this sub-committee and outline a mandate for the CCSL to consider at its next meeting.

Following extensive efforts to clarify the intent and proposed expectations for the sub-committee, it was determined that the Planning and Resources Committee should withdraw the motion at this time in order that it can be expanded on and presented again at the next meeting of the CCSL.

Mr. Philip indicated that there are serious concerns being expressed by the student representatives regarding the contents of the memo on Space Planning distributed by the office of the Vice-Rector, Services.

As a response to these concerns, it was moved by Nick Kaminaris and seconded by Hernani Farias that whereas accessibility to the 7th floor of the Hall Building is very limited and, whereas the proposed move of some Student Services to the 7th floor is illogical, be it resolved that the CCSL opposes the move of the Dean of Students Office, Counselling and Development, Health Services, International Students and Student Services; and, be it resolved that CCSL recommends that these Student Services be consolidated on the 4th and 5th floors.

Dr. Boisvert commented that the motion would appear to be premature given that the coordination of the design of the new Student Services space has yet to begin.

Following a lengthy discussion, Dr. Boisvert agreed that there are several valid concerns being expressed by the students and that he will ensure that they are part of the consultation and design coordination process for the new Student Services space.

On a motion by Charlene Nero, seconded by Bluma Litner, it was moved that Council express strong reservations regarding the proposed consolidation of Student Services on the 7th floor of the Hall Building, and that Council request more complete information as soon as possible, and that the possibility of consolidation into an alternate location be considered. Be it resolved that

Council recommend that no final decision regarding the consolidation be made without consultation and input from the sitting members of this Council.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Dr. Boisvert indicated that he would follow-up on this issue and report back at the next meeting of the CCSL.

Dr. Boisvert outlined that regarding the space plan for Student Services, it is his intent to thoroughly consult with key stakeholders and take into consideration the various needs of all parties implicated by the move.

d) Other Issues

Bob Philip stated there was nothing to add from the Planning and Resources Committee.

7. New Business

a) Child Care Services

Ann Kerby distributed copies a motion to establish a Task Force on Child Care Services;

Move that the Concordia Council on Student Life establish a Task Force to review and make appropriate recommendations concerning the provision of child care services for parents/guardians at the University. This issue of child care is compatible with and supported by the Student Services Mission Statement, in particular

'We seek to fulfil (this) mandate by valuing the diversity which characterizes the Concordia community. Student Services advocates the creation of an environment at the University which minimizes anxiety, promotes positive attitudes and stimulates an excitement for learning.'

Proposed Task Force membership:

Ann Kerby, Director, Advocacy & Support Services, CHAIR
Coordinator, Women`s Centre
Representative of Status of Women Office
Representative of Concordia Daycare Centres
Faculty Member from Early Childhood Education
4 students (Undergraduate & Graduate)

The Committee to Consider:

- does Concordia have a responsibility to provide child care services for students/parents?
- the availability of child care services at Concordia;
- the most current reports reflecting child care needs at Concordia;
- policies and practices at other post-secondary Canadian institutions;
- the feasibility (legal, safety & financial) of expanded child care services within Concordia.

The Task Force to present an Interim Report to Council in Fall '92.

Following a limited discussion where it was determined that students should submit a list of proposed names for the Task Force, the motion was passed unanimously.

b) Enforcement of No Smoking Policy

Nancy Torbit commented that the Environmental Health and Safety Committee would like to see an increased effort to enforce the No Smoking policy. She also expressed the need for student input or representation on the committee.

Hernani Farias said the name of a student for the committee will be provided in the near future.

A discussion followed identifying several problems with implementation of the policy.

8. Reports from Directors

The various Directors provided reports and updates on activities in their Departments.

Recreation and Athletics-Bob Philip

There was nothing to report from this Department.

Financial Aid and Awards-Roger Côté

Roger Côté provided a follow-up on the report provided at the December CCSL meeting regarding emergency loans. In particular; he identified that 92% of all emergency loans were given with collateral, while 8% were given without collateral. He also outlined the need to continue to reduce the amount of emergency loans while meeting the needs of students with the greatest need, and decreasing liability to the University.

A discussion followed detailing concerns of students and exploring possible options for providing financial support for needy students.

Mr. Côté informed Council that there will no more reductions on emergency loan dispersments over and above measures taken in January

Advocacy and Support Services-Ann Kerby

Ann Kerby announced activities outlined in the Agenda that are being coordinated by the Women`s Centre, including a Black Heritage celebration. The Environmental Health and Safety Committee has declared the Centennial Building sound, but it will be 6 to 8 weeks before the damaged part can be used.

A proposal outlining the cost of upgrading University facilities to improve access for the disabled is being put before the government.

Dean of Students-Brian Counihan

Brian Counihan announced that the Word Perfect workshops for students have been very successful.

He also said that the CCSL Awards Night preparations are going well. The ceremony will be held on April 3rd, while the final day for nominations is March 20th. with the final decisions being made on March 27th.

Nick Kaminaris announced that student leaders will come together for discussions after the spring break.

Health Services-Nancy Torbit

Nancy Torbit announced that Health Services has secured limited amounts of vaccine for Meningitis and it is available at cost price. She thanked Charlene Nero for posters informing about the disease.

The Health Fair will be held on March 19; it involves many areas and promises to be very informative.

Nancy torbit also commented on the Sexual Assault Committee which she chairs. It has very good cooperation from all participants. This committee looks at related health and safety issues, data collection on incidents, education strategies and self-defense programmes.

Counselling and Development-SupMei Graub

There was nothing to report from this Department.

At this time, Dr. Boisvert asked if there was anything else Council wished to discuss. Janet Mrenica indicated that it would be important to have more than one meeting to discuss the budget and indicated that the students would like to have information on budgets dating back 5 years and a side room is necessary in order for student to caucus during the budget discussions.

Dr. Boisvert explained the `openness` of the budget process, indicated that the budget information requested would be available, and adequate lead time would be provided. He said that as soon as the budget was developed by the Directors, it would be tabled at CCSL with adequate time for consideration before final decisions are made.

9. Next Meeting

Loyola, DL 200
12:30 p.m.- Friday, 27 March 1992 at ~~SCW, H-769~~

10. **Termination of Meeting**

The meeting was terminated on a motion by Hernani Farias, seconded by Nick Kaminaris.